30th October 1933]

## Public Works

*Flushing the Cooum river in the Madras City.*

* 141 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what progress has been made in the scheme for flushing the Cooum river in the Madras City;

(*b*) how much has been spent on this scheme; and

(*c*) what programme of work has been charted for the current year?

*A.*—(*a*) The scheme consists of—

(i) the installation of a pumping station in the Port Trust premises at the Madras Harbour and taking pipes therefrom to the Cooum through the Fort Moat and Kelly's Drain—Estimate Rs. 1,50,350; and

(ii) the construction of a lock over the Buckingham Canal at the Elephant Gate overbridge to reduce the cost of pumping—Estimated cost Rs. 28,150.

The pumping installation was completed three years ago. A revised estimate for the construction of the Lock Gate is under the consideration of Government.

(*b*) The expenditure on the pumping installation with subsidiary pipe lines, etc., is Rs. 1,45,642 and that on the Lock Gate so far incurred excluding the materials at site is Rs. 14,470. A sum of Rs. 2,863 was spent on removing shoals in the Cooum river during 1932–33 and a sum of Rs. 9,430 is spent on the average annually in pumping sea water into the Cooum to maintain it at a constant level.

(*c*) A sum of Rs. 20,000 has been provided for the work during the current year. Expenditure will be incurred after the revised estimate for the construction of lock gates is approved by Government.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know from the Minister when he expects the scheme to come to fruition? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I must have notice of the question."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Are the Minister and his Government satisfied that the scheme will be satisfactorily completed and that the Government will not come to this House for more money? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I cannot say anything now, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" What is the period that this scheme covers? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Notice."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know during what period this sum of Rs. 1,45,642 was spent? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Notice."